

APPLICANT(S): SMOLYAR Lev, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/966,753
FILED: October 1, 2001
ASSIGNEE: Intel Corporation
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REMARKS

The present Amendment is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1 – 30 have been rejected. Claims 14 and 30 have been amended. Applicants respectfully assert that no new matter has been added. Claim 29 has been cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. In making this cancellation without prejudice, Applicants reserve all rights in this claim to file divisional and/or continuation patent applications.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 14 due to informalities, for example, misspelling of the word "two". Applicants have corrected this typographical error. In addition, Applicants have voluntarily corrected another typographical error by deleting the word "a".

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 14 are editorial in nature and are meant to correct form and language only. No new matter has been added.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 9-12, 14-18, 22-26, 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by La Rosa et al (US Patent 6,078,611).

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 11, 14, 15, 18, 22, 24, 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Tran (US Patent 6,269,075).

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 13, 14 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Basso (US Patent 6,345,078).

Claim 29

Claim 29 has been cancelled and the rejections to this claim are now moot.

Claims 1 -28 and 30

As is well established, in order to successfully assert a *prima facie* case of anticipation, the Examiner must provide a single prior art document that includes every element and limitation of the claim or claims being rejected.

Independent claim 1 recites "*a direction metric determiner which generates direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of a finger block*".

Independent claim 14 recites "*to generate direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of a finger block*".

Amended claim 30, now independent recites "*generating direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of said finger block*".

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US 6,078,611 to La Rosa et al.

La Rosa does not teach, either expressly or inherently, all the elements of claims 1, 14 and 30. In particular, La Rosa does not disclose at least “*generating direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of said finger block*”, as recited in claims 1, 14, and 30.

La Rosa teaches an accumulator, which receives as input 1) the amplitude of the pilot signal sample received from the first finger; and 2) the amplitude of the pilot signal sample received from the second finger. The accumulator delivers as output a single value, which is the difference between the amplitudes (See col. 5, lines 32-38). Obviously, a value representing the difference between the amplitudes cannot anticipate “*direction metrics of each of a set of possible direction of joint movement* of at least two fingers”, as recited by claims 1, 14, and 30.

Additionally, in the office action, the Examiner contended that the overflow detector 208 of La Rosa “selects one of said direction metrics” and that the timing adjust circuit 210 of La Rosa “moves the fingers of said finger block in the directions indicated by the selected direction metric”. Applicants disagree. The overflow detector 208 detects an overflow condition in the difference produced by the accumulator 206 (see col. 5, lines 39 – 41) and is not a selector at all.

Therefore, La Rosa et al. does not include each and every element and limitation of claims 1, 14, and 30.

US 6,269,075 to Tran

Tran does not teach, either expressly or inherently, all the elements of claims 1, 14 and 30. In particular, Tran does not disclose at least “*generating direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of said finger block*”, as recited in claims 1, 14, and 30.

Tran describes a finger processing element 16, which samples only in-phase and quadrature phase signal components 38 and 40 of a finger (see col. 5, lines 54-56). Finger 16

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does not generate direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of “joint movement of at least two fingers” as recited in claims 1, 14, and 30.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that Tran does not teach a metric selector which “selects one of said direction metrics” as recited by claims 1, 14 and 30. Tran describes a code tracking loop 88 that generates a tracking adjustment signal based on the difference between early and later samples of in-phase and quadrature phase components (Col. 6, lines 19-23, Col. 5, lines 57-59). Code tracking loop 88 is not a metric selector, which “selects one of said direction metrics” as recited in claims 1, 14 and 30. Therefore, Tran does not include each and every element and limitation of claim 1, 14, and 30

US 6,345,078 to Basso

Basso does not teach, either expressly or inherently, all the elements of claims 1, 14 and 30. In particular, Basso does not disclose at least “*generating direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers of said finger block*”, as recited in claims 1, 14, and 30.

Basso describes a block 30 to set up a loop to produce all values of j and k, and a block 31 to identify fingers that are assigned to the same antenna (Col. 6, lines 43-48).

Blocks 30 and 31 are not a determiner that “generates direction metrics of each of a set of possible directions of joint movement of at least two fingers”, as recited in claims 1, 14 and 30.

In addition, in the office action the Examiner contends that block 32 of Basso is a “metric selector which selects one of said direction metrics according to a predetermined criterion”. Applicants respectfully submit that Basso does not teach a metric selector which “selects one of said direction metrics”. Block 32 of Basso compares the difference between the offsets assigned to the two fingers with a minimum difference (Col. 6, lines 50-54), which is different than selecting one of the direction metrics of each of a set of possible direction of joint movements of at least two fingers. Accordingly, Block 32 is not a metric selector, contrary to the Examiner’s allegation. In fact, Basso does not even describe generating

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direction metrics of each of "a set of possible directions" of joint movement of at least two fingers, as discussed above.

Therefore, Basso does not include each and every element and limitation of claims 1, 14, and 30

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 14 and 30 are allowable. Claims 2-13 and 15-28 depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of claim 1 and claim 14 and include all the features of these claims. Therefore, the patentability of claims 2-13 and 15-28 follows directly from the patentability of claims 1 or 14. Therefore, applicant respectfully asserts that claims 2-13 and 15-28 are likewise allowable.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-28 and 30, under U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Double Patenting Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-13 and 29-30 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 and 15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,130 B1.

The Examiner also rejected claims 14-28 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,130 B1 in view of Langberg et al. (US 5,852,630).

Applicant hereby provides a terminal disclaimer, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321 (c). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the double patenting rejections.

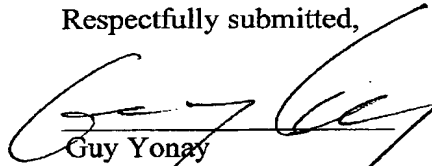
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Conclusion

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3355.

Respectfully submitted,



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